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MEMOIR
OF
THE LATE HON. SAMUEL DANA,
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JAMES DANA.

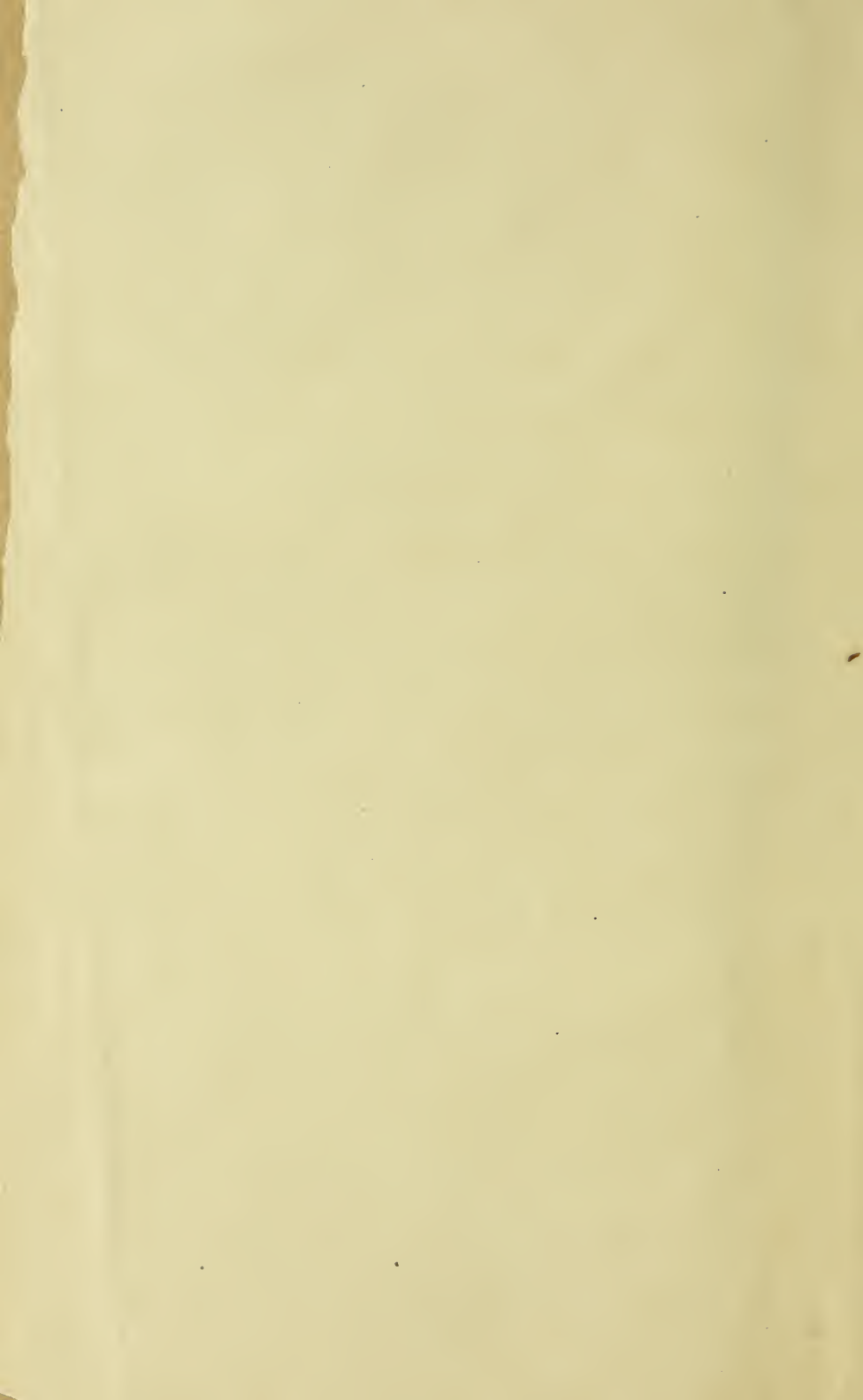
ALSO, MEMOIRS OF THE LATE
CAPT. LUTHER DANA, AND HIS SONS
JAMES FREEMAN,
SAMUEL LUTHER, AND NATHANIEL GIDDINGS DANA,
*4442.363
BY MRS. JAMES FREEMAN DANA.

WITH NOTES OF RECOLLECTIONS OF.

DOCT. SAMUEL L. DANA,
BY HIS FRIEND,
DOCT. A. A. HAYES.

CAMBRIDGE:
PRESS OF JOHN WILSON AND SON.

1877.



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PUBLIC LIBRARY
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CITY OF BOSTON
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THESE MEMOIRS

ARE DEDICATED TO THE GRANDCHILDREN OF

SAMUEL DANA

AND

LUTHER DANA.



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HON. SAMUEL DANA.

THE late Hon. Samuel Dana, for nearly half a century, was identified with the history of his native town of Groton.

At the time of his birth, in 1767, his father, Rev. Samuel Dana, the minister of the town, resided where afterwards, for many years, Isaiah and Joseph Hall kept a well-appointed inn, now the comfortable hostelry of Nelson Hoar.

His father was lukewarm in his sympathy with the American cause; fearing that the Colonies, in their feeble condition, would be unable to resist the power of the Mother Country, and that a contest would result in defeat, and a more rigorous servitude. There is a tradition that some of the inhabitants of Groton, in their rage at this want of faith, shot bullets on one occasion into his house, greatly endangering the lives of himself and family. The son, however, was a firm believer in the cause of liberty: his boyhood was impressed by the stirring events of the time, and his later political career showed the stamp of those early days.

His advantages of education were confined to the district school, and such instruction as his father, who was a graduate of Harvard College, and a good scholar, could find the time to give him. The late Hon. Charles H. Atherton, of Amherst, N. H., in a memoir of Mr. Dana's father (published in 1830), says: "Samuel, his second son, now of Groton, and who has been a distinguished citizen of Massachusetts, both in her courts of law and halls of legislation,

entered his father's office as a student at law with a preparation that would hardly qualify him to enter college."

He was admitted to the bar, and opened an office in Groton (which was located where Governor Boutwell's house now stands), eleven years prior to the close of the last century; having finished his studies in Boston, in the office of Hon. John Lowell, Judge of the United States District Court, now — near a century later — presided over by his great-grandson, the eminent jurist, Hon. John Lowell, of Boston. That distinguished man and eminent lawyer, Hon. Timothy Bigelow, coming from the best Revolutionary stock, carefully educated, a Harvard graduate of high rank, and a law student with Hon. Levi Lincoln, Sen., was Mr. Dana's professional and political compeer. Born the same year, and admitted to the bar at the same term, they commenced practice at the same time. Each soon gained a high professional reputation, and an extensive practice. They became the leaders of the Middlesex Bar, and tried cases also in the Suffolk and Essex courts, as well as in those of Hillsborough County, in New Hampshire. They were retained in most of the important cases, — almost always on opposite sides. Parties from the neighboring towns sought their services; and Groton became noted for its eminent lawyers.

Mr. Butler, in his "History of Groton," says of Mr. Dana: "He was a popular speaker, able advocate, and successful practitioner. Being a cotemporary in practice with Hon. Timothy Bigelow, and having the same elevated stand in public estimation with him, he was very generally engaged on the opposite side of all trials within the range of their practice, which was very extensive. Their popularity in their profession, fidelity to their clients, and adroitness in the management of cases, were nearly or quite equal; but their manners were different. In argument, Mr. Dana was calm, smooth, and persuasive; Mr. Bigelow, energetic, forcible, and commanding."

In the early part of the present century, those distinguished lawyers, Samuel Dexter, Harrison Gray Otis, John Quincy Adams, Josiah Quincy, Charles Jackson, William Sullivan,

in Boston ; Samuel Putnam and William Prescott, in Salem ; Nathan Dane, in Beverly ; Samuel Sewall, in Marblehead ; Theophilus Parsons, in Newburyport ; Artemas Ward, in Charlestown ; Timothy Bigelow and Samuel Dana, in Groton, — were in practice at the same time, and of counsel in the most important causes then tried in our courts. After the decease of Mr. Dana and Mr. Bigelow, the reputation of the town for good lawyers was well maintained by the Hon. Luther Lawrence, and, after him, by George F. Farley, Esq., his student. Mr. Dana's reputation attracted many students, to whom he was accustomed to give lectures on the law and its practice. Many of his pupils were leading men in their day. These gentlemen made quite an addition to the cultivated society of the town. No list of his students has been preserved ; but it is known that among them were the Hon. Willard Hall, Judge of the United States District Court in Delaware, recently deceased, and the late Hon. William Merchant Richardson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire. Mr. Richardson practised in Groton for some years, — part of the time as law partner with Mr. Dana, — and while residing in Groton was Representative in Congress for Middlesex. Afterward, the late John Wright, Esq., who married that brilliant, accomplished, and beautiful lady, Susan Prescott, daughter of Hon. James Prescott, read law with Mr. Dana. Mr. Wright died at Lowell, where, for many years, he was agent of the Tremont and Suffolk Mills.

Mr. Dana was tall, well-proportioned, and of commanding presence. His features were marked, but regular. He was manly in bearing ; and his manners were courteous and attractive, and uniformly those of a gentleman. In dress, he was particular, as became his station in society, and always scrupulously neat. His tastes were elevated and refined, and without a tinge of vulgarity. He was fond of a good horse, was at home in the saddle, and travelled to Concord court "ride and tie" with Mr. Bigelow. He encouraged manly sports, and joined in rational amusements. Of a social nature, he mingled freely in the society of men and women of

culture. He was an extensive reader ; and, while he did not neglect the periodicals of the day, his favorite books were histories and the English classics. What he read was thoughtfully considered, and stored for remembrance. Using well-chosen language, his opinions were given with clearness ; and his conversation was entertaining and instructive.

A few years after he had established himself in practice, a daughter of Charles Barrett, Esq., one of the leading citizens of New Ipswich, N. H., who was in the bloom of her youth, came to visit relatives in Concord, where Mr. Dana was attending court. She was noted for her beauty of form and feature, her culture and refinement, her lovely disposition, engaging manners, and marked power of conversation. Mr. Dana soon found opportunity to make her acquaintance, and was in love almost at first sight. Their tastes assimilated ; and not many weeks passed before her feelings were in sympathy with his. They were married ; she being eighteen years of age, her husband thirty. He escorted his bride to the house he had built in Groton, between the Academy and the parish meeting-house. Located on the Common, near the brow of the hill, with ample gardens, it was perhaps the most attractive residence in town. Over this mansion, the fair young bride was called to preside ; and with grace and dignity she filled her station. Guests were welcome, and old-time hospitality generously dispensed.

A friend who knew her writes : "Those who knew her best loved and respected her most. In person, Mrs. Dana was tall, finely formed, and singularly graceful in her movements. Her complexion was fair, with a fine color ; her long and abundant hair black, or nearly so ; her eyes of violet-blue, with long, dark lashes, — causing them, in some lights, to appear black, and giving to the whole countenance that appearance of gentleness and sensibility which forms the most touching kind of beauty. I have heard it said that, when your father and his bride made their first appearance in church at Amherst, N. H., where his father then resided, they were said to be the handsomest couple that had ever been seen there. Mrs. Dana's manners were as graceful, kind,

and courteous as her person was lovely; and guests were welcomed by her with a cordiality that could not easily be forgotten."

Mr. Dana was a fond and devoted husband. Courtly in manner and gallant in attention, every thing was made subordinate to the happiness and comfort of his wife. An affectionate father, firm but not severe in his rule; instilling good precepts, inspiring high aims, willing to allow for the follies of youth; encouraging his children in their studies and pursuits, interested in their diversions, he won their obedience, commanded their respect, and retained their love.

He was a frequent and careful reader of the Holy Scriptures, in which he found a rule of this life, and an assurance of the life to come. He revered holy things and holy places. If his seat in the pew was vacant, the congregation knew that he was sick or away from home; and his children, unless sick, seldom ventured to ask to be excused from attending church. Sometimes, when the Rev. Dr. Chaplin was not well enough to be present on the Sabbath, Mr. Dana would be invited to read a sermon and the hymns, which he did with acceptance. In his theology, he was liberal and tolerant, though decided, and perhaps sometimes tenacious. In his faith, there was little doubt. He respected the ordinances of the Church; and, with his wife, he united with it for life, after the installation of the Rev. Mr. Robinson. Fond of music, he joined in the singing at church, and united with his family in the Sunday-evening hymns.

He was a friend of good learning, and encouraged education, being one of the founders of Groton (now Lawrence) Academy. He contributed to its endowment, and was chosen one of the first Board of Trustees. His children enjoyed the advantages of the Academy, and some of them of the best schools in Boston. He felt much interest in Harvard College; regretting that his father, through lack of means, could not allow him to receive its benefits, and finding much satisfaction in entering there one of his sons.

Mr. Dana was the first postmaster in Groton. There was a mail once a week, *via* Leominster. The quarterly receipts

n the first year (1800) were three dollars; in the second, nine.

Mr. Dana and Mr. Bigelow were military men. The North Company was composed of Democrats, and commanded by Captain Dana; the men of the South Company were Federalists, and Captain Bigelow was their commander. We should have enjoyed seeing these rival lawyers on the tented field. The record of their military exploits has not been handed down; and no monuments are to be found on the old muster-field at Capell's Mills, on the banks of the Nashua. We presume that they wielded the sword as valiantly as the pen. *Non tam Marti quam Mercurio.*

Mr. Dana was a man of unusual courage; and, though placed in some trying situations, was not known to exhibit evidence of fear. The writer was once invited to drive with him to Lowell, without any intimation of the purpose of the trip. Upon arriving there, he took from the carriage-socket a well-loaded whip, put it under his arm, and beckoned to his son to accompany him to the office of one of the Lowell journals. They entered the office; and Mr. Dana, approaching the editor, pointed to an article in the paper, which he held in his hand, and inquired if he was the author. He replied that he was not. Mr. Dana said that he wished to know the author's name. He answered that he was not at liberty to give it. "Then I shall hold you responsible," said Mr. Dana. The editor, looking suspiciously at the whip, which Mr. Dana was drawing from under his arm, suddenly concluded to reconsider, and give the writer's name.

Mr. Dana was a Master Mason and Secretary of Saint Paul Lodge, and in the year 1800 delivered an oration in honor of George Washington, at the joint invitation of the citizens of Groton and of Saint Paul Lodge. Some years afterwards, he delivered a masonic address at Concord, Mass., which is in print.

He was appointed by Governor Sullivan County-Attorney for the County of Middlesex in 1807, and held that office for four years; when he received from Governor Gerry the ap-

pointment of Chief-Justice of the Circuit Court of Common Pleas, over which he presided for ten years.

In politics, he was a Democrat, but not of the Bourbon type. He did not believe General Jackson had authority of law for the "removal of the deposits." He was not pro-slavery, and was entirely opposed to disturbing the Missouri Compromise.

The substantial direction of the affairs of the nation during the administrations of Washington and the elder Adams passed from the Federal to the Democratic party, in the political revolution which resulted in the election of Mr. Jefferson as President. His radical change of the policy of the Federalists soon rendered him the object of their hatred and vituperation, and engendered a party rancor which we of this day cannot fully appreciate. It was at this period that Mr. Dana commenced his legislative career as Representative in the General Court. He served two terms, and was then honored with an election to the State Senate for nine successive years. In those days, a seat in the Senate was the object of honorable ambition; and the body was composed of the most distinguished citizens of the Commonwealth. Amongst these, Mr. Dana met, as associates, Senators Thomas Handyside Perkins, Harrison Gray Otis, Christopher Gore, Peter Chardon Brooks, John Phillips, James Lloyd, John Welles, and Israel Thorndike, of Boston; Levi Lincoln, of Worcester; Isaac Coffin and Walter Folger, of Nantucket; Elias Hasket Derby, Daniel Appleton White, Benjamin W. Crowninshield, of Salem; and William King, of Maine. The term of Senators was not limited by custom to two years, as at present; and most of these gentlemen were elected for many successive years, and some of them during the whole period of Mr. Dana's senatorial career. The Hon. Timothy Bigelow was a member of the House of Representatives for twenty-one years, successively, we believe. The political parties were about equally divided in the Senate; Mr. Otis being the principal leader of the one, and Mr. Dana of the other. When the majority was on the side of the Federalists, Mr. Otis was usually elected President; and, when on the side of the Democrats, Mr. Dana.

We copy a resolve offered by him in the year 1809, at the time of the excitement over the Embargo Act, wherein he refers to some resolutions against the embargo which were pending in the Senate. "Mr. Dana presented a resolve ordering the Supreme Judicial Court to prepare and deliver to the Hon. Senate their opinion upon the following question :

"Whether the said Senate have a right, in virtue of the power delegated to them by the Constitution of this Commonwealth, to resolve or declare 'that the act of the Congress of the United States passed on the ninth day of January in the present year, for enforcing the act laying an embargo, and the several acts supplementary thereto are unjust, oppressive, and unconstitutional, and *not legally binding on the citizens of this State.*' "

This resolve was lost by a party vote of nineteen to eighteen, and the resolutions referred to in it were passed by the same vote amid the rejoicings of the Federalists. Perhaps it was feared that Mr. Jefferson might do what General Jackson threatened when South Carolina attempted nullification; for we find a clause was added, advising parties aggrieved by the operation of the act "to abstain from forcible resistance." The debates were sometimes acrimonious. One encounter between Mr. Otis and Mr. Dana was very personal, and it was supposed that Mr. Otis would demand satisfaction. The affair was soon known on the business streets. The Senate adjourned amid excitement. Mr. Dana calmly walked down State Street on "Change," when several of his political friends, whispering in his ear, inquired: "Heard from Mr. Otis?" Mr. Otis, however, did not allow himself to commit so unwise an act.

The following is Mr. Dana's reply to a resolution of thanks to him as President of the Senate, at the close of the session of 1812-13:—

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONORS,—

"Having been appointed to preside over your deliberations at an arduous crisis of our country, it was soon perceived that there was a great diversity of opinion among the wisest and best of men, as to the course to be pursued and the measures to be adopted during our political year. Under such circumstances, to receive your unanimous award that I have performed this service 'in an impartial and

faithful manner' has not failed to impart to me the most precious consolation. This decision has resulted from that spirit of magnanimity, candor, and forbearance, which can overlook many errors, and which has so generally distinguished the members of the first branch of the Legislature in their intercourse with each other. Permit me to offer to you my grateful acknowledgments for that friendly aid and constant support which you have afforded me in the discharge of the laborious duties of this office. At this moment of our parting, let us unite in our common prayer to the Almighty Disposer of events, that he will give to all the people clear views and a just sense of their interests, that he will continue to have our beloved country in his keeping, and speedily restore to it a peace upon terms safe and honorable to the nation."

In the fall of the year 1814, he was elected a Representative in Congress, to fill a vacancy caused by resignation. As the term of that Congress expired, however, on the third of the following March, his time of service was short. He was one of the delegates from Groton to the Convention for altering and amending the State Constitution in 1820-21; and in 1825-26 again represented the town in the Legislature.

About the year 1808, Judge Dana moved to Charlestown, Mass., and occupied the Tufts mansion, on Chelsea Street, opposite the house of the Commander of the Navy Yard, and now the residence of the Rev. Dr. Lambert. Afterwards he moved to Chestnut Street, occupying the Adams mansion, on the corner of Adams Street, which was the writer's birthplace, and is now owned and occupied by the family of the late George A. Kettell.

Mr. and Mrs. Dana were welcomed to the best society of the town, and in those elegant mansions they liberally dispensed their wonted hospitality. Mrs. Dana in later days used to refer to an amusing custom prevailing during her residence there, saying that, when she gave a party, she baked about three times as much cake as was required for her guests, because the married ladies were accustomed to bring to parties good-sized bags, and, on leaving, to revisit the supper-table and take home the bags well filled for the children.

Mr. Dana's law office was in Boston, in the Scollay's building, on Court Street. Among his students there, were his

younger brother James Greene Dana, and the Hon. Levi Woodbury, Secretary of the Navy, afterwards Secretary of the Treasury, and later one of the Justices of the United States Supreme Court. Both of these students were members of his family, and the friendly relations between him and Judge Woodbury were life-long.

Mr. Dana was chosen and served as director of the United States Branch Bank, in Boston, and later of the Union Bank.

He did not take much part in the town affairs of Charlestown, but sometimes a town meeting, when political affairs were under discussion, would become so unmanageable that the moderator would resign, and Mr. Dana be sent for: his dignity, fairness, and tact as presiding officer soon calmed the troubled waters.

He kept a fine pair of horses, which, in the fashion of the day, he drove tandem in a gig, and with Mrs. Dana made frequent excursions over the fine drives around Boston. He attended at the First Parish on Town Hill, of which the Rev. Dr. Jedediah Morse was minister. Mr. Morse was a political preacher, and it is easy to imagine the dislike with which Mr. Dana listened to his offensive diatribes counselling opposition and resistance to the measures of the National Government.

Mr. Dana used to relate amusing anecdotes of the Doctor. For some time he had paid a commission to the booksellers for the sale of his "Morse's Geography." But he loved money, and to save the commission, formed a secret partnership with Mr. Samuel Etheridge, a bookseller in Boston. For a while all went well, but in time Etheridge failed in business. The Doctor and his partner carefully concealed their connection; but the assignee one day, when Etheridge was away, discovered the articles of partnership in a pigeon-hole of his desk. He handed the paper to the Hon. Lemuel Shaw, his counselor. The Doctor soon received a lawyer's letter, and was compelled to liquidate all the liabilities of the concern. He used to pretend that the affair did not disturb *him*, but in his anguish would characterize the partnership document as "that unfortunate paper *which gave Mrs. Morse so much trouble.*"

In May, 1811, a most disastrous conflagration in Newbury-

port brought with it such destruction and such destitution to a large number of the people, that most urgent appeals were made for enlisting the sympathies and drawing out the contributions of the kind-hearted all over the country. Collections were made in the churches after such stirring appeals, and subscription papers were circulated in many towns. Dr. Morse urged generosity upon his people, and put his own name, with such a sum as he thought he could afford, upon a paper which was in charge of one of his parishioners, Mr. Jacob Forster, a cabinet-maker in the town. In due time, Mr. Forster, in setting about the collection of the sums subscribed, sent his son, of the same name, to Dr. Morse. The reverend gentleman led the boy to a shed or large closet, and proposed to pay the amount attached to his name in "Geographies," from a large pile there heaped. The boy said he would run to his home, near by, for a basket. On reporting to his father the result of his errand, he heard from his parent's lips the unguarded utterance, — "He may go to thunder with his old Geographies: we want the money." His son, thinking this was a return message for him to bear, again sought his pastor, and repeated the same emphatic words.

We have mentioned that the Tufts mansion, Mr. Dana's first residence in Charlestown, was opposite the Navy Yard. The wall of the yard was then so low that the interior was in full view from the house; and this may have attracted Mr. Dana's eldest son, Charles, to the navy, which he entered, and where he made a brief but honorable record.

Mr. Dana and family passed five pleasant years in Charlestown, and formed friendships which never weakened. Mrs. Dana's health, however, was too delicate to bear the harsh winds from the bay; and they moved back to his native town. His mansion on the Common being under lease, he rented the Aaron Brown House (the residence of the late Dr. Joshua Green, now owned by his son, Dr. Samuel A. Green, City Physician of Boston), while he was building the well-known mansion nearly a mile from the main village on Farmer's Row, where he resided for the most of his remaining years.

This was located on high land, commanding a fine view in the north of the extensive range of hills in Southern New Hampshire, and of Monadnock beyond. Wachuset bounded the horizon on the west, and was in full view from the parlor windows. In front were the well-cultivated farms of James and Ezra Farnsworth, and the green carpet of "Broad Meadow." The beautiful village of Groton, with its churches, academy, and handsome residences, is in full sight, and completed a landscape which was picturesque and interesting. A wide intervening space between the mansion and the public road affords an agreeable and desirable isolation. This space forms an extended semicircular lawn, ornamented with evergreens, shrubs, and flowers, and a driveway quite encircles it. Connected were extensive flower, fruit, and vegetable gardens, and on the westerly side of the mansion was another lawn of several acres. Hospitality was an established usage of the household; and some of the numerous guests who were its recipients will remember the generous halls, the spacious and attractive parlors and library, and Mrs. Dana's admirable taste in their furnishing.

The late Dr. Amos Bancroft, of Groton, was an eminent physician, possessing remarkable skill and acumen in the treatment of disease. He was the prominent physician in Northern Middlesex; and his reputation was such that his professional circuit embraced the adjoining towns, and, in consultation, places more distant. His prescriptions were effective, for he compounded them himself. His narrow, one-seated chaise, called a sulky, with the well-packed saddle-bag under the seat, was a familiar sight upon the public roads. When Mr. Dana returned from Charlestown, Dr. Bancroft was adopted as the family physician; and to Mrs. Dana, during the many years she was an invalid, he was, indeed, the "good physician." Dr. Bancroft graduated at Harvard, and was a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was a keen observer of matters apart from his profession, and an interesting and instructive conversationalist. He and Judge Dana became intimate friends, and their families were on familiar terms. To his son, Dr. Amos Bigelow Bancroft, our

school and college mate, we are indebted for the letter which accompanies this memoir.

Mr. Dana decided to gratify his taste for agricultural pursuits, and purchased a farm of some three hundred acres, extending from Farmers Row to the Nashua River, bounding on that river about a mile, and adjoining the farm of Deacon Samuel Lawrence, father of the Hon. Luther, and of William, Amos, and Abbott Lawrence, the distinguished Boston merchants. He planted a mall of rock-maples on Farmers Row; and this was dedicated by the Misses Lawrence and the Misses Dana as Maple Row. Houses for farm hands were erected, and barns and out-buildings; and he soon became one of the large farmers of the county. He kept large numbers of cattle and sheep, and quite a number of horses for farm work and for driving. He raised rye, corn, barley, and oats; but the principal crop was hay. It was interesting, in haying time, to watch the large force of mowers following each other with their scythes across the open mowing-field of some eighty acres in extent, and to witness the excitement when the hay was being gathered and stored in a hurry, to escape a rain-storm. Much was accomplished in improving the breeds of animals and introducing the most approved agricultural implements. He was one of the earliest members of the Middlesex Agricultural Society at Concord, and contributed to its exhibitions.

He was much interested in the growth of wool. Gorham Parsons, of Brighton, Mr. Willis, of Pittsfield, and Mr. Dana were, we believe, the first importers into this country of the breed of merino sheep. With his eldest daughter he passed the winter of 1824-25 in Washington, and there organized the New England Society for the Improvement of Wool. Among others, we find as members, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, John C. Calhoun, and William Wirt; Charles Morris, of the United States navy; Seth Bemis, of Watertown, a successful manufacturer of woollens; S. Rensselaer, of Albany; and Samuel Bell, of New Hampshire.

Mr. Dana sold his mansion estate to Hon. Timothy Fuller. It had afterwards several owners, the last purchaser being the late John J. Graves. Mrs. Graves and family continue

to reside there. The Dana and Lawrence farms have both passed to the great-grandson of the latter, James Lawrence, who is one of the most extensive farmers in the State.

After Judge Dana's retirement from the bench, he did not resume professional practice; but, to accommodate his son and the late Judge Thomas Hopkinson, who were classmates, he kept an office while they were his students. One day he inquired about their progress, when one of the students remarked that the noise from carriages on the road was not favorable for study. He replied, "Master (Judge) Lowell's office was in the old Court-House in Boston, which was on the site of the present Court-House, and the County Jail was in the same building. The inmates of the jail passed the day in a hall where they were allowed to make merry, sing, and play upon various instruments. This hall adjoined the office. When I entered as a student, Master Lowell handed me a law book, which I attempted to read, but was almost in despair on account of the confusing noise in the hall. The next day, when I observed that the noise did not seem to distract or disturb Master Lowell, my pride induced me to greater interest in my reading. The interest increased; and not many days passed before I ceased to hear any noise. You can make the application."

After the sale to Hon. Timothy Fuller, Judge Dana took possession of his house on the Common. His two eldest daughters were married. One of his sons was in business in Boston, and another in Charlestown.

Mrs. Dana had been in feeble health for several years; and, on the eleventh day of May, 1834, the beloved wife and mother passed away. All the children were present at the funeral service, at which her pastor, the Rev. Charles Robinson, officiated. The charm lent to that house thirty-seven years before departed with her. The next spring, he moved back to Charlestown, and leased the house on High Street just west of the Trinity Methodist Church, when his sons joined the household.

For many years he had been afflicted with that terrible disease, dyspepsia, which caused, at different times, great depression of spirits. His lungs were weak and easily affected.

In the autumn, he had a painful attack, from which he did not recover. His physicians were Dr. William J. Walker and Dr. George C. Shattuck, an honored friend. The disease seemed to baffle the efforts of those eminent physicians, and they could afford but little relief. He exhibited his usual fortitude; and the last great change relieved him from further suffering on the twentieth day of November, 1835. His children tenderly watched over him. They were distressed to witness his acute suffering, and to feel that they were so powerless to alleviate it. He was in the full possession of his faculties, and gave them his blessing and farewell. On examination, the case was found to be complicated, and the lungs much diseased. The funeral service was performed by his honored pastor, Rev. Dr. James Walker.

A few years since, two brothers, natives of Groton, noticing the condition of the ancient cemetery, gave a generous sum for its improvement, which was increased by the town; and, through the efforts of a committee, of which Samuel W. Rowe, Esq., was the executive member, this old burying-ground, where rest the remains of many distinguished people, has been renovated and made attractive to those who love to visit the shrine of their ancestors. Much credit is due Mr. Rowe and his associates for the satisfactory manner in which his work was performed.

Upon a white marble tablet over a tomb is the following inscription:—

SAMUEL DANA died Nov. 20th, 1835, aet. 68.

REBECCA, his Wife, died May 11th, 1834, aet. 54.

CHARLES, their Son, was drowned July 31st, 1819, aet. 20 years.

GEORGE their Son, died April 12th, 1804, aet. 1 year and 6 months.

Of Mr. Dana's sisters, Amelia was the wife of Jonathan Smith, Esq., Register of Deeds for Hillsborough County, N. H. Thesta married Major Aaron Brown, who was in trade at Groton. Mehitabel, the wife of Governor Samuel Bell, of New Hampshire, was the mother of Chief-Justice Samuel Dana Bell, and of James Bell, Senator in Congress, both of New Hampshire, and of Dr. Luther V. Bell, Superintendent of the McLean Asylum, who was surgeon in the late war, and died while in the service of his country.

Of his children, Charles, a lieutenant in the United States navy, was accidentally drowned at St. Mary's, in Georgia, in the year 1819, from United States Schooner "Lynx," Lieutenant-Commander Madison. George died in 1804, while a little boy. Anna, wife of Colonel John Sever, passed away in 1864; and her remains rest by the side of her husband's, in the cemetery at Kingston, Mass. The remains of Rebecca, wife of Kilby Page, were, in the year 1875, laid by the side of those of her husband, at Forest Hills. Samuel died in 1848, and was buried at Mount Auburn. Martha Barrett is the wife of Gen. George Sears Greene, of New York, civil engineer. Thesta married Brev.-Brig.-Gen. James Jackson Dana, of the United States army.

U. S. MARINE HOSPITAL, CHELSEA, April 8, 1877.

HON. JAMES DANA.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—My recollection of your late honored father, Judge Samuel Dana, is confined to that period of time prior to 1828 when I left Groton to enter college, and to which place I did not return until the fall of 1835.

I remember your father as a gentleman who would attract attention in any company, by his personal bearing and appearance. Tall and erect in stature, although slightly inclined to slenderness, he was dignified and courtly in his manners. His hair, since my remembrance, was white, yet did not seem to my youthful eye as at all incongruous, but rather harmonizing with his striking personal appearance. He was in company agreeable, easy and interesting in conversation; attracting the eye and attention of young persons who were present, even when addressing those of his own age.

My recollection of the impression your father gave me, when coming into the old church in Dr. Chaplin's day on a Sunday morning, is very distinct. Walking up the broad aisle, followed by your amiable mother and the rest of the family, in the order of your age; one, two, three, four, five,—yes, six children,—I seem to see him now, with his erect, semi-military air, but with one not inappropriate to the place, his left arm always encircling his hat, guiding all of you into the pew, which was always filled, with an ease and dignity which few could equal. Your father's professional career ended before my recollection. I have heard of his large and extensive practice, and that he was almost always engaged in cases where the Hon. Timothy Bigelow was attorney on the opposite side. It was necessary to oppose to this distinguished advocate the next ablest

lawyer in that half of Middlesex County ; and such your father undoubtedly was.

He was a friend and neighbor of my father, who was his physician, and frequently called at our house. I well remember listening to a story which he gave to my father at one of his visits. It related to an occurrence which took place in Boston, when Democratic and Federal party spirit ran high, and was at times violent. During the session of one of the Legislatures, when your father was President of the Senate, the most prominent Democrats of the Legislature and of Boston received an invitation to dine with a Democratic friend on Tremont, then Common Street. At the appointed day and hour, the *élite* of the Democratic party assembled. The master of the house was *accidentally* detained by business until the dinner hour had arrived. Reaching home, he found, much to his surprise, his parlors filled with a goodly number of his Democratic friends. Having got fairly through the handshaking, embarrassed and puzzled, he left the room, and sent in a servant and called your father out.

THE HOST. Judge, what are you all here for?

JUDGE DANA. Here for? We have come to dine with you.

HOST. Dine with me? Why, I haven't got any thing for ye.

JUDGE DANA. Is not this the day of the dinner?

HOST. Dinner! I have not invited you any day to dinner.

JUDGE DANA. Is that so? Ah! I see it is a trick of the enemy.

HOST. Pray go in, and tell the gentlemen the facts; for I can't do it.

Your father said we all took our hats, and left one by one. I did not look on to the Common; but I presume there were people enough there, enjoying the joke.

Your mother — and my recollections of her are those of a boy — was a most excellent and amiable lady. The impressions of children in the same neighborhood of the character of the mother of their playmates and companions is almost always correct. They soon discover who possess sympathetic affection, and who do not. All your playmates loved your mother for her kindness of heart in her attempts to make them happy. More than once, when about to return home with some companion from the street, who with me had been visiting you, have you been sent by her to call us back to partake of tea with the family, and of some little nicety which had been prepared on our account. You may have forgotten it: I have not.

A. B. BANCROFT.

CAPTAIN LUTHER DANA.

THE subject of this sketch was the eldest of twelve children of the Rev. and Hon. Samuel Dana and Anna (Kendrick) Dana. He was born in Groton, Middlesex County, Mass., on the thirteenth of August, 1763. At seventeen years of age, he entered the infant navy of the United States as midshipman. There is not, as far as the writer of this is aware, any written record of the time during which young Dana remained in the navy, nor at what period he entered the merchant service.

On the twenty-ninth of March, 1788, Mr. Dana married, at St. Andrew's, in Nova Scotia, Miss Lucy Giddings, — a native of Exeter, N. H., whose parents had removed to St. Andrew's. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Dana removed to Amherst, N. H., where his father and family then resided, and entered into partnership with a friend of his in mercantile business. His genius, however, did not lie in that direction; and after trying it for a few years, and after sustaining considerable losses by being security for some friends, he resolved to return to the sea.

Though it is probable that Captain Dana, who was a very methodical and accurate man in all his affairs, kept a complete record of his voyages, yet as, in process of years, and in consequence of various changes of residence, all such memorials have been lost, the writer of this is obliged to rely upon such scattered facts as can be recalled by memory from verbal accounts, without reference to exact dates.

Captain Dana sailed from Salem, Mass., in command of one of a fleet of four vessels, fitted out from that port by Mr.

Derby, — one of the merchant-princes of the day, — upon a voyage to the Mediterranean. Captain Dana afterwards commanded a ship fitted out by Mr. Derby for Mocha, — a port till that time unvisited by any American vessel. The ship sailed with sealed instructions, which were not to be opened until she was well out at sea. The voyage was successfully accomplished; and the first Mocha coffee brought to this country was brought hither by Captain Dana in that ship.

Captain Dana continued his life as a shipmaster during many years, visiting various ports in Europe, Asia, and America. The second ship that sailed for Sumatra was commanded by him. The whole number of voyages which he made on the Atlantic Ocean amounted to seventy.

Captain Dana was a man of very quick and discriminating powers of observation, and possessed of a love for and a knowledge of books, which enabled him to observe intelligently the objects of interest presented to his view in the various places he visited; and, being a man of fine disposition and courteous manners, he was a most agreeable companion.

In his voyages, Captain Dana was fond of collecting objects of interest in natural history; many valuable specimens in conchology, &c., were presented by him to the Marine Museum of Salem, Mass.

In person, Captain Dana was tall and well formed, with a sensible, frank, cheerful countenance. He had clear, blue eyes, dark-brown hair, which became silvery white at an early period of life, and a fair complexion, somewhat embrowned by exposure. In short, he was just the kind of man in appearance that he was in reality, — one ready to assist any who might require aid; one whom the little boys in the street would feel at liberty to appeal to in any little-boy trouble, and from whom they would never fail to receive a kind answer; one from whom the most timid woman need not fear a discourteous answer, if she should apply to him for direction as to her way.

For several years before his death, Captain Dana had given up a sea-life; though he was never idle, but always engaged in some business. He died at Fort Preble, in Portland Harbor,

Maine, February, 1832, and was interred in the grave-yard on the hill in Portland.

One circumstance in Captain Dana's sea adventures was too remarkable to be passed over in silence. The vessel commanded by him, whilst sailing in a fog out of some port in Holland, came in collision with a smaller vessel. Captain Dana, who was in his cabin, ran immediately upon deck, and on reaching it perceived something approaching him, as if thrown at him. Instinctively stretching out his arms, he received into them a soft bundle, which, by the cry issuing from it, he perceived to be a baby. Returning hastily to his cabin, he deposited the helpless little one warmly in his own cot; and, again hurrying to the deck, he found that, in obedience to his orders, several of the passengers on the foreign craft had already been transferred to the vessel under his command. Amongst the number of these was a woman weeping bitterly for the loss of her child, which she supposed she had thrown overboard. Making her a sign to accompany him, Captain Dana took the mother down to a state-room, and showed her her baby, still quietly sleeping in his cot.

The writer regrets being unable to do justice to this little narrative, as related by Captain Dana, whilst walking up and down the floor of his own quiet parlor in the evening, he commenced: "It is so many (say thirty) years ago this evening, since, coming out of such a port in Holland, my ship came in collision with a vessel inward-bound." It seems that, when the two vessels "collided," to use a modern phrase, the mother, alarmed by the shock, ran upon the deck with her infant in her arms, and with the idea of saving its life threw it by a violent effort towards Captain Dana's ship. Hopeless as the effort would seem to have been, He who guides the flight of the sparrow, directed the equally helpless babe into the right hands; and the tender heart of the Captain, which was full of love for little children, enjoyed the satisfaction of restoring the little one to the arms of its mother, and of placing them both safely on board a vessel which would take them to their destination.

Another circumstance which the writer has heard Captain

Dana relate was that of his being awakened one night, the recurrence of which was recognized by him, though the date is now forgotten in the lapse of years, by finding himself suddenly and violently thrown from his berth to the floor of his cabin, his lamp extinguished, and every thing in his cabin so disarranged as to render it difficult to ascertain where he himself was. After much groping about, he succeeded in obtaining a light, and then ascertained by the noises in the ship that others had been subjected to similar disturbances.

When day at length dawned, which was not until after the lapse of some hours, and he was able to clear his cabin-door of the things that had fallen against it, and had succeeded in reaching the deck, he found every thing in the utmost confusion. The masts were snapped off, and hung with trailing sails over the side of the vessel. One of the men on watch had been washed overboard; the others had been thrown down, and covered by the falling sails. Much effort and labor was necessary to restore things to their places. Fortunately, the ship was not many days' sail from a port; and, by rigging up a jury-mast from the remains of the masts and sails, the vessel was brought safely to Lisbon, for which port she was bound.

In relating this event, Captain Dana was accustomed to say that the only way in which he could account for the state in which he found things on board the ship was upon the supposition that she had been struck upon her side by one of those gigantic, solitary waves which are occasionally seen to traverse the ocean; and that with such force and in such a direction as not only to capsize her, but to cause her to throw a complete somersault, and come up on the side opposite to the one upon which the wave struck her.

Captain Dana's early education and associations had been such as to free his mind from those superstitious notions by which so many sailors are haunted; for instance, the belief that any work commenced on a Friday cannot be carried to a successful termination. His preference was rather in favor of Friday. He said that the most successful and prosperous voyage he had ever made was commenced by sailing from Salem

on a Friday, reaching the port for which he was first destined on Friday. This port, somewhere in the south of Europe, he left on Friday, and arrived at the port in Great Britain which was his next destination on Friday. Having transacted his business at this last port, he sailed again on a Friday, and arrived safely in Salem on a Friday, having made a safe and prosperous voyage.

Of his peculiar religious views, the writer has never heard Captain Dana speak definitively. He had been educated in childhood under religious influences; and he always continued to study his Bible, and when on shore to attend public worship, his preference being rather for the Episcopal Church. On board a vessel under his command, the Sabbath was observed as sacredly as circumstances would permit. Captain Dana sought to show his religion rather by conduct than by words. An inscription for his tombstone might truthfully stand as follows: "Here lies one who was a dutiful son, a devoted husband, an affectionate father and brother, a faithful friend, a kind neighbor, and a good citizen."

MRS. LUCY DANA.

THE union between Captain Dana and his wife was one of such entire and lasting affection that a sketch of one seems incomplete, without an outline of the character of the other. Mrs. Dana, the daughter of Captain Nathaniel Giddings, and his wife, Mary Elwell,* was born in Exeter, N. H. Captain Giddings afterwards removed with his family to St. Andrew's (B. P.); and there their only daughter was married, at the early age of sixteen, to Luther Dana, recently of the United States navy.

* A descendant, by the mother's side, from Rev. John Robinson, pastor of the Pilgrim Fathers.

In person, Mrs. Dana was very handsome ; having a brilliant complexion, light-auburn hair, and eyes of mixed blue and hazel, which appeared sometimes of one hue and sometimes of the other, giving great variety to the expression of the features. Her countenance, voice, gait, and whole manner were full of life and animation. During Captain Dana's long absences at sea, Mrs. Dana held the entire control of the family ; and so perfect was her husband's confidence in her judgment, that, when he was at home, if his sons asked his permission for carrying out any of their plans for employment or amusement, he always replied : " Ask your mother : if she does not object, I shall not." Of course, her authority over them was met by their entire love and respect. Captain and Mrs. Dana had five children, of whom the youngest son and daughter died in childhood. Mrs. Dana aided to the utmost her husband's efforts to give their children as good educational advantages as the country at that time afforded, and had the pleasure of witnessing their success.

When the two eldest sons, Jonathan (afterward James) Freeman and Samuel Luther, were prepared to enter Exeter Academy, by such schooling as Amherst afforded, Captain and Mrs. Dana removed to Exeter ; and from thence, when the lads were fitted for college, they removed to Cambridge, where they resided until after the young men had graduated, and commenced studying their profession. The youngest son, Nathaniel Giddings, in consequence of an accident which for a time disabled him in a great measure for close study, gave up the idea of college life, and procured a commission as cadet at West Point. He was at graduating commissioned as an officer in the United States service, and remained in the army until his death, which took place at Fort M'Henry, in Baltimore Harbor, in 1833.

After the death of her husband, — her eldest son having died some years previously, — Mrs. Dana resided with her second son until her own death, which occurred in 1843, whilst she was on a visit to a nephew of Captain Dana's, the late Dr. Luther V. Bell.

JAMES GREENE DANA.

JAMES GREENE DANA, the youngest son of the Rev. and Hon. Samuel Dana and Anna (Kendrick) Dana, was born at Amherst, N. H., Feb. 11, 1785; studied law with his brother Judge Dana, and commenced business in Boston. In 1813, Mr. Dana removed to Frankfort, Ky., and established himself in his profession. Mr. Dana was a man of very considerable literary talent; "The Commentator" a weekly paper which he edited was esteemed a very able journal. At the time of his death and for many years previous, he filled the office of Law Reporter for the State of Kentucky, and "Dana's Reports" are in the Law Libraries of Boston and Harvard College. He died at Frankfort, Ky., 1841, unmarried.

Mr. Dana's personal appearance was prepossessing. He was very tall, slenderly built, with a fair but blooming complexion, full blue eyes, fine teeth, and soft light brown hair that curled slightly. He was gentle and affectionate in his disposition, courteous in his manners, and was held in high esteem in the community in which he resided.

JAMES FREEMAN DANA, M.D.

JAMES FREEMAN DANA, was born at Amherst, N. H., Sept. 23, 1793. He was the eldest son of Luther Dana, a descendant of Richard Dana, who came to this country and settled in Cambridge about 1640, and from whom all of that name throughout the United States have been supposed to be descended.

On the side of his mother, whose maiden name was Lucy Giddings, Dr. Dana was a descendant of the celebrated and venerable John Robinson, the pastor of the noble band of pilgrims who founded Plymouth, Mass.

As a boy Dana was remarkable for his quickness of observation, and readiness in applying his knowledge: of a kind and obliging disposition, he was always foremost in the construction of water-wheels, and such other mechanical works as boys are fond of exercising their faculties upon. He was also enthusiastically fond of music, and possessed a natural talent for it, making an indulgence in it his chief recreation, but not allowing it to interfere with more important pursuits.

Dana was fitted for college at Phillips Academy, Exeter, N. H., his father having removed thither in 1804, in order to give his sons, three in number, the educational advantages of that excellent Institution. James Freeman and his brother Samuel Luther entered the University at Cambridge, in the August of 1809. His father removed his family to Cambridge in the autumn of the same year. In 1813, the brothers graduated; the elder as Jonathan Freeman Dana, having been so called for a friend of his father, and his name was so printed in several triennial catalogues. By an act of the Massachusetts Legislature, it was afterwards changed to James Freeman

Dana. Amongst his intimate friends, he was addressed as Freeman; the prefix being omitted except in writing.

Immediately after joining the University, Dana showed a decided partiality for those pursuits in which he afterwards rose to eminence. Many of the studies of the ordinary routine possessed but few charms for his inquisitive and penetrating mind, which sought for gratification rather in exploring the works of nature, ascertaining their principles and classifying their phenomena, than in perusing the productions of human taste and ingenuity. The mathematical, metaphysical, and classical studies of the College afforded him but little gratification; and, though he gave such attention to them as his respect for the laws and teachers of the institution dictated, he made no marked proficiency in them.

Even for the classics and literature of our own language he had no very great relish; and with the exception of Shakespeare, Milton, and Burns, he derived but little pleasure from the poets; principally, perhaps, because he had but little time to devote to them. Of Burns, he was extremely fond, and in after life he wrote several short poems in the peculiar dialect and manner of the Scottish bard, breathing much the same simple and gentle spirit that characterizes his writings, and exhibiting no small portion of kindred shrewdness and humor.

The failure of Dana to excel in those branches of study which form so large a part of a collegiate course did not proceed either from a want of talent or from indolence; but his mind found other pursuits more congenial, and to these he devoted all the hours that could be spared from the tasks imposed by collegiate discipline. These pursuits were natural philosophy and natural history, more particularly entomology, mineralogy, and chemistry. In this latter, which became the favorite employment of the remainder of his life, he was deeply interested, and was greatly instrumental in bringing it into much higher estimation than it had ever previously enjoyed at Harvard. This was done by forming in conjunction with his brother and several other classmates, a Society for the cultivation of Natural Science and Philosophy, to be perpetuated by the admission of fresh members from each succeeding

class. This Society received much encouragement from the the Executive Government, and existed for several years under its original title of the Hermetic Society.

Towards the close of his collegiate life, at the time when Dr. Gorham the Professor of Chemistry was delivering his annual course of lectures to the Senior class, Dana was appointed to take care of the lecture room and apparatus, and to assist the professor in preparing the experiments for his lectures. To that distinguished physician and chemist his youthful assistant soon recommended himself so highly by his intelligence, zeal, and assiduity, as well as by his pleasing manners and amiable disposition, that the professor, finding he intended pursuing the study of medicine, invited him to do so under his tuition, and in a manner which evinced much kindness and liberality, thus laying the foundation for a friendship creditable alike to each, and which lasted through life.

Accordingly in the autumn of 1813, Mr. Dana having received his degree of A.B., at Harvard, commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Gorham. With the principles and practice of the healing art, he made himself well acquainted, but still his chief delight was in the pursuits of mineralogy and chemistry.

The first paper before the Linnæan Society of New England, was read by Mr. Dana in 1815: it was entitled "An Analysis of the Incrustation found upon the Basket of Eggs from Derbyshire, England, presented by Judge Davis."

Mr. Dana had been very active in establishing this Society, and in obtaining an act of incorporation for it, from the Legislature of Massachusetts.

In 1815, the Corporation of Harvard College having determined on establishing anew the chemical department, appointed Mr. Dana to go to England for the purpose of procuring suitable modern apparatus; and in April of that year he sailed for England. During his stay there he studied with much assiduity under Frederick Accum, then a distinguished chemist and teacher of operative chemistry; and from his instructions derived an amount of knowledge which it would at that time have been difficult to obtain at home.

Upon Mr. Dana's return from England, having executed the commission with which he had been intrusted, to the satisfaction of the corporation, he was employed by that body to direct and superintend the fitting up of a chemical laboratory and lecture room. The building known as Holden Chapel being appropriated to the purpose, the arrangements were made with much ingenuity and taste.

In consequence of these interruptions to his medical studies, Mr. Dana did not receive his degree of M.D., till 1817, a year later than the usual time. The degree of A.M. had been received by him in due course.

In the autumn of 1817, Dr. Dana was appointed to deliver a course of lectures on Chemistry to the students of the medical department of Dartmouth College, N. H. These lectures gave so much satisfaction that the appointment was renewed, and for a few years Dr. Dana continued to lecture each autumn, at Dartmouth, residing the remainder of the year in Cambridge, and continuing his duties in the College.

January 18, 1818, Dr. Dana married Matilda,* the second surviving daughter of the Rev. Samuel Webber, D.D., late President of Harvard; and settled in Cambridge with the intention of practising as a physician. That place, however, from the number of physicians already established there, afforded him but small opportunity for the exercise of professional skill, though, as far as his practice extended, it gave much satisfaction; and great regret was expressed by those of his professional brethren who knew him best, that one so qualified by natural endowments for excellence in that department should relinquish it.

Dr. Dana's mind was still engrossed by his favorite pursuits; and, besides fulfilling his duties at Harvard and at Dartmouth, he in conjunction with his brother, Dr. S. L. Dana, published in 1819, a small octavo volume on the mineralogy and geology of Boston and its environs, embracing a circuit of about twenty miles. This was a work of very considerable merit, though from the locality treated of being so extremely limited, and from the little attention at that time paid to such

* Also a descendant on the mother's side from Rev. John Robinson.

subjects, it did not receive by any means the notice and attention it deserved. It, however, performed pioneer's duty in opening the way for those desirous of making farther investigations.

In the early part of 1821, Dr. Dana, having received the appointment of Professor at Dartmouth, resigned his situation at Harvard, and removed to Hanover, when he withdrew himself entirely from the duties of the medical profession, and devoted himself to those of his professional chair. Here his high scientific attainments, and his pleasing and urbane manners, were of great advantage to the reputation of the College, and procured him many marks of public confidence and esteem.

In addition to the degrees already received from Harvard, Dr. Dana received honorary degrees from Dartmouth.

The other Professors in the Medical College at that time were Dr. R. D. Mussey, Professor in the department of Anatomy and Surgery; and Dr. Daniel Oliver, in that of *Materia Medica*, both men widely known and highly respected. The three were in many of their characteristic traits very unlike, yet each seemed to furnish just what the others needed; and they were all men of high moral and religious principles: the unanimity of feeling and the fraternal affection existing among them was often a subject of favorable comment from those who had been accustomed to seeing "doctors disagree."

In addition to his lectures on Chemistry, Dr. Dana gave at Dartmouth, lectures in Botany, in which science he was somewhat of a proficient.

In 1824, Dr. Dana was appointed Aide-de-camp to his excellency Governor Morrill, of New Hampshire, and the following year was elected a Representative from Hanover to the State Legislature. He was a freemason of the highest standing in the craft, and at the age of thirty-one, was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

In the autumn of 1825, Professor Dana published a work designed as a text-book for the use of students attending his chemical lectures. This work, entitled "An Epitome of Chemical Philosophy," was favorably received by the scientific public, and was adopted as a text-book in two other highly respectable institutions.

Besides the two works already mentioned, Professor Dana was for many years an occasional contributor to "Silliman's Journal;" and that able work is indebted to him for many valuable communications, which conferred much reputation upon their author, and have been frequently quoted with great respect by scientific men in Europe.

In addition to his lectures as professor, Dr. Dana delivered also several courses of private lectures in different institutions; and was occasionally employed to contribute by his chemical knowledge, and his aptitude in the application of it, to the improvement of the processes of art in some of our manufacturing establishments.

It was one of the characteristics of Dana's mind, that he rendered his knowledge subservient to practical utility, not contenting himself with the mere acquisition of facts and principles, however numerous and extensive: neither wasting his time and labor, as some of high and undoubted talent have done, in forming plausible theories, and endeavoring to warp facts into accordance with them; nor in pursuing fine-spun, or abstruse and showy, speculations into the regions of infinity.

In the summer of 1826, Professor Dana was appointed by the Secretary of War, one of the Visitors of the National Academy at West Point; and, almost immediately after his return from that duty, he was elected to the vacant chair of Chemistry in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the University of New York.

This appointment was highly gratifying to Dr. Dana, as opening to him an enlarged sphere of usefulness, and a wider field whereon to reap the harvest of fame; as well as promising to reward his labors more amply in a pecuniary point of view, as a large proportion of his income had hitherto been given to the increase of his professional library and apparatus, and the other means of pursuing his scientific researches.

Professor Dana immediately accepted this new and honorable station; and in November, 1826, having completed his lecture course at Dartmouth, he removed with his family to New York, and entered at once upon the duties of his office.

In New York, Professor Dana was received with much cordiality by the officers of the University, and those gentlemen of the medical profession to whom he was introduced; and, his reputation having preceded him, he was soon after his arrival appointed to lecture at the Athenæum, and elected a member of the Linnæan Society.

The Professors with whom Dr. Dana was associated in New York, were Dr. Beck, Dr. Edward Delafield, and Dr. J. A. Smith; all men of high standing.

For two or three years, Dr. Dana's thoughts had been much occupied with the subject of electro-magnetism, and with inventing and preparing apparatus which should exhibit its power; freely stating in conversation, his conviction that it would produce more astonishing results than any power hitherto known. When questioned by friends as to the subject he had selected for his lectures, upon his replying "electro-magnetism," much surprise was expressed at his choice, as the subject had as yet excited comparatively little attention in Europe, and was almost unknown in this country; and lectures upon it could excite interest in but few minds. Dr. Dana's reply to such remarks was: that for those very reasons he had chosen the subject; that it was high time public attention was awakened to it, as he was certain it would lead to more astonishing results than those of any previous discovery; that he should use his utmost efforts to render it popular, and saw no reason to despair of success.

How far he accomplished his design, the delighted audiences that crowded his lecture-room, could testify.

Of the truth of his prediction in regard to the importance of the results to be wrought by the science of electro-magnetism, the marvels of the electro-magnetic telegraph bear witness to the world.

The circumstance of Professor Morse's attendance at these lectures was considered by his counsel so important an element in his defence, when suits were brought to invalidate his claim to the invention of the magnetic telegraph, that the fact of his having been present was legally deposed to; and the original lectures, in Dr. Dana's own handwriting, were demanded by

the Court. His widow, Mrs. Dana, loaned them to Professor Morse. Afterwards they were unfortunately destroyed in a fire which occurred at the Capitol in Washington, April, 1852; but attested copies had been made, which have since been deposited, together with a letter from Mr. Morse, expressing his regret at the destruction of the originals, in the Library of Harvard College.

The following tribute from Professor Morse's own pen is quoted from his defence against one of the attacks designed to deprive him of the patent for his invention :—

“I learned from Professor Dana in 1827, the rationale of the electro-magnet, which latter was exhibited in action. I witnessed the effects of the conjunctive wires in the different forms described by him in his lectures, and exhibited to his audience. . . .

“These with many other principles of electro-magnetism were all illustrated experimentally to his audience. These being the facts, to whom do I owe the first knowledge which I obtained of the science of electro-magnetism bearing upon the practical development of the telegraph? Professor Dana had publicly demonstrated in my hearing and to my sight, all the facts necessary to be known respecting the electro-magnet, so far as it has any relation to the telegraph. . . .

“The volute modification of the helix to show the concentration of magnetism at its centre, adapted to the electric magnet, the modification since universally adopted in the construction of the electro-magnet, is justly due, I think, to the inventive mind of Professor James Freeman Dana. Death in striking him down at the threshold of his fame, not only extinguished a brilliant light in Science, one which gave the brightest promise of future distinction, but the suddenness of the stroke put to peril the just credit due to him for discoveries he had already made. Professor Dana had not only mastered all of the science of *electro-magnetism* then given to the world, a science in which he was an enthusiast; but, standing on the confines that separate the known from the unknown, was, at the time of his decease, preparing for new explorations and new discoveries.

“I could not mention his name in this connection, without, at least, rendering this slight and inadequate homage to one of the most liberal of men, and amiable of friends, as well as promising philosophers of his age.” *

* See Shaffner's Telegraph Companion, vol. ii. no. 1, pp. 72, 73.

In 1871, application was made to the family of Dr. Dana, on behalf of the National Telegraph Memorial Association, for a portrait of him which would enable them to have a likeness cast for one of the faces of the base of a monument about to be erected at the junction of Seventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington City. A satisfactory portrait was forwarded to the Secretary of the Association for that purpose, and placed in the hands of the sculptor, Mr. Horatio Stone. Mr. Morse's death occurred soon after, and subsequently that of Mr. Stone. These two events probably put an end to the plan, as nothing more has been done about it up to this time (1877).

The first stroke of adversity that Dr. Dana encountered was the sudden death of his eldest child. Devotedly fond of children, he was excessively attached to his little daughter; and her death produced an effect upon his health and spirits, from which he never recovered. He exerted himself to the utmost to appear cheerful, and applied with unremitting assiduity to his scientific pursuits, but his cheek wore the flush and his eye the brilliancy that so often betrays the overwrought heart and brain.

The winter of 1826-27 thus passed away; and, in the early part of April, a severe cold occasioned by sudden and great change in the weather, produced an attack of erysipelas which affected the brain, and in five days from its first appearance, and three from the time it was considered dangerous, closed his active and useful life; leaving a very numerous circle of friends and acquaintances to mourn the loss of one who had occupied so large a share in their affections, and contributed so greatly to their enjoyment.

The death of Dr. Dana occurred on the fifteenth of April, 1827 (Easter Sunday), and on Tuesday the funeral rites were performed at Grace Church, on Broadway, by the Rev. Dr. (afterwards Bishop) Wainwright, between whom and Dr. Dana a warm friendship had for many years existed. The interment took place in vault No. 32 of St. Mark's Church, in that part of the city then called Greenwich.

A touching instance of the tenderness and delicacy of the

affection with which Dr. Dana was regarded, was shown in the fact that Madame Malibran, then at the zenith of her celebrity in this country, lent the unsurpassed melody of her voice to swell the notes of the funeral anthem which rolled above the bier of one who had listened with intense delight to the execution of the chants constituting a portion of the usual service of the church. It is said to have been the only occasion of the kind in this country at which Madame Malibran did assist.

In person Dr. Dana was of medium height, well formed and possessed of a handsome and prepossessing countenance. He had a fair complexion, brown hair that curled slightly, and eyes of that intermixture of blue and hazel which gives to the organ of sight a brilliancy which varies with every emotion.

The late Bishop Wainwright, in speaking of the great interest excited in New York by Dr. Dana during the brief period of his abode there, remarked "that his countenance was such that it seemed only necessary for one to look at him to love him ; for his face was a true index of his character."

Dr. Dana's manners were frank, gentle, and winning. He possessed a large portion of native wit and humor, and a fund of entertaining anecdotes, which, with his social and genial disposition, made his company remarkably entertaining and pleasing. His temper was mild, abounding in all the tender virtues, and rendering him of most exemplary worth in all the relations of domestic life.

His character as a man was generous and upright, distinguished by strict integrity, united with much liberality of feeling, and founded upon firm moral and religious principles. Whilst in college Dr. Dana became a communicant of the Episcopal Church, and ever remained a sincere and devout worshipper according to her forms.

Dr. Dana left no family, except his widow, and a daughter, Matilda Freeman, born Sept. 16, 1827.

DR. S. L. DANA.

SAMUEL LUTHER DANA, the second son of Luther Dana and Lucy (Giddings) Dana, was born at Amherst, N. H., July 11, 1795. He was prepared for college at Phillips Academy, at Exeter, N. H., and entered Harvard College in the same class with his brother, Jonathan (afterward James) Freeman.

The two brothers were endowed with the same love for natural science, and entered upon the study of certain branches of it with great enthusiasm. They often made excursions together on foot through the country lying thirty miles around Boston, for the purpose of examining its geological structure, and collecting mineralogical specimens.

The result of these researches was a volume published by the brothers in 1818, entitled the "Mineralogy and Geology of Boston and its Vicinity." The younger brother also employed himself upon these excursions in searching for entomological subjects, and formed quite a large collection of beautifully prepared insects of various kinds. This was afterwards given to the Linnæan Society, of which the brothers, if not the founders, were amongst the earliest members.

Another taste which formed a strong bond of union between the brothers was their love for music, and aptitude in acquiring some proficiency in both vocal and instrumental music. In college they belonged to the same musical societies.

Immediately after graduating in 1813, Dana commenced reading law with his uncle Judge Dana, then residing in Charlestown, Mass.; but, having a desire to see something of

military life, he received, through the interest of military friends, a commission in the army as Lieutenant in the First U. S. Artillery, with which corps he served in New York and Virginia until the close of the war.

In the June of 1815, the army having been disbanded, Dana resigned his commission, and commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Bancroft, of Groton. He received his medical degree, and commenced the practice of his profession in Gloucester, Mass., in 1818. From 1819 to 1826, Dr. Dana practised his profession in Waltham, Mass., and during that time established a chemical laboratory for the manufacture of oil of vitriol and bleaching salts; he also founded the Newton Chemical Company, of which he was the chemist till 1834, in which year he became resident and consulting chemist to the Merrimack Manufacturing Company, at Lowell, Mass., the duties of which office he filled until his death.

Dr. Dana's next publication after the "Mineralogy and Geology of Boston and vicinity," in 1819, was made whilst he was in England in 1833, and was a clear exposition of the chemical changes occurring in the manufacture of sulphuric acid. This was followed by a report to the City Council of Lowell, on the danger arising from the use of lead water-pipes.

About this time Dr. Dana's agricultural experiments and observations were made, and the materials obtained for "The Farmer's Muck Manual," published in 1842.

His "Essay on Manures" received the prize offered by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, in 1843. His translation and systematic arrangement of the treatise of Tanquerel on Lead Diseases, was considered an important contribution to medical knowledge. The discussion of the lead pipe question gave rise to several pamphlets from Dr. Dana's pen. His investigations into the more obscure points of the art of printing on cotton cloth shed much light upon the subject, and led to many improvements in the process.

Dr. Dana's discoveries with respect to bleaching cotton were first published in the "Bulletin de la Société Industrielle de Mulhouse." The principles there established have led to the

merican method of bleaching, of which Persez in his "Traité de l'Impression des Tissus" says, "that it realizes the perfection of chemical operations."

Dr. Dana died at his residence in Lowell, March 11, 1868, after a short illness, consequent upon a fall upon the ice at his own doorstep.

In person Dr. Dana was tall and slender, he had blue eyes, dark-brown hair, and a fair complexion. The expression of his countenance was intellectual and full of sympathy. He was extremely witty; and, when relaxation from study permitted, he entered with great zest into the pleasures of society, contributing his full share to the enjoyment of others.

In 1819, Dr. S. L. Dana married Ann Theodora, a daughter of Rev. Joseph Willard, D.D., a former President of Harvard College. Mrs. Dana died in 1828, and he subsequently married Augusta Willard, also a daughter of President Willard. Both these ladies were highly cultivated, refined, and excellent women.

James Jackson, the only son of Dr. Dana who survived childhood, when arrived at a suitable age, received a commission in the United States army, and was afterward promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General. Dr. Dana also left three daughters, one of whom, Lucy, married Benjamin Kittredge.

BROOKLINE, May 3, 1877.

MES DANA, Esq.,

DEAR SIR,—I was abroad at the date of the death of my kind friend; and, since that time, disease has left me only a few hours for exertion of any kind.

With the short memoir now returned, I have put some notes which you may use if you deem them appropriate.

It has been a subject of deep regret to me, that Dr. Dana's great merits as a man and scientist are so little known.

Truly yours,

A. A. HAYES.

JAMES DANA, Esq.,

The following notes of recollections are more brief and rough than it is my wish to offer you. A. A. H.

In applying science, in aid of manufacturing, Dr. Dana chose a wider field for observation and experiment, than that open to the teacher of science.

As a chemist, he belonged to the class of those "who know the most properties of the most substances," and was eminently successful in original devices; and, in general and technological work, he abounded in resources.

Early, in the business of manufacturing acids and similar products, improved plans and processes were used, and his resort, for deoxidating manganic oxide, by heating it with sulphur, so as to form, with pyroligneous acid, a crude manganous acetate, — then largely consumed in dyeing a fast brown, — is remembered.

After his services were engaged by the Merrimack Company, he commenced researches on the action of the dung of bees — then used in the removal of the excess of mordant — in madder printing of calicoes. His labors here had the character of a systematic, scientific course, and resulted in the discovery that crude phosphates, in a bath with bran, are a complete substitute for the expensive and disgusting material before deemed indispensable.

A substitution of arseniates, for phosphates, as less costly, suggested by Mercer, is the world-wide reliance of printers at this time. Of the same systematic character was his study of the mode of action of the agents used in the important step of bleaching fabrics, involving analyses of various cotton fibres. These inquiries resulted in his invention of a method which has not only received high commendation as scientific work, but universal adoption in practice.

Daily, too, was his attention called to the ever-recurring obstacles and accidents of large works in the printing and dyeing with madder. His study of these impediments led to sim-

the suggestions as to remedies. The extension of the works and varied application of power led to the use of steam, in addition to the basis water-power. Here Dr. Dana was called to the new field of the civil engineer, in addition to other duties. His development of the whole subject of evaporative power of coal, and economical disposition of the heat, in steam and water of condensation, is a masterly effort, embracing very detail, and was in advance of any published results at that time.

While these varied applications of science to most useful purposes were daily occupations, he was pursuing in his laboratory the great study of his life, — Madder, its products and its application to dyeing; year after year. He deemed the subject exhaustless; and while following the published results of other laborers, in the same field, as test trials, I happen to know that the most important discoveries, from time to time, were made by him, and often applied, before their publication by others. The laboratory, in most busy moments, was exceptionally neat: the deft handling of the apparatus and order of experiments expressed the system of thought.

As a teacher, Dr. Dana, both orally and through successive editions of his agricultural notes, under the quaint title of "Muck Manual," contributed largely to the accurate information of agriculturists in America and England.

He carried into farming practice the same scientific methods that he had found so important to success in technical inquiries, and added an overflowing love for the pursuit in all its varied bearings.

His geological knowledge was kept bright, and increased by constant additions from best and latest authorities. One of his courteous attentions to scientific friends and strangers was an excursion to a travelling sand, which in a part of the township of Lowell advanced slowly, but surely, over arable land; converting it to a desert space. His long-sustained and minute observations threw strong light on the formation of sedimentary rock deposits, — currents of air replacing currents of water, — and made this field his own. While the varied exhibitions were discussed, his humor added a charm and zest

to his descriptions that were inimitable and most highly enjoyable.

We must conclude that a great and good man has left us whose highly scientific labors were constant for the benefit of others, but whose modesty and sphere of action precluded deserved public acknowledgment and praise.

CAPTAIN NATHANIEL G. DANA.

NATHANIEL GIDDINGS, the third son of Luther and Lucy (Giddings) Dana, was born at Amherst, April 9, 1797. He attended the Academy at Exeter with his brothers, and, after the removal of his father and family to Cambridge, continued his studies with the intention of entering college; but, in consequence of the explosion of some gunpowder with which he was experimenting, his eyes were so much injured as to oblige him to relinquish the idea of obtaining a classical education.

Being of a very active turn of mind, he could not be contented to remain long without some definite object of pursuit; and, finding after a brief trial that he did not possess any taste for mercantile pursuits, he sought and obtained an appointment as cadet in the United States Military Academy, at West Point.

Cadet Dana graduated honorably at West Point, in 1814, received a commission as Lieutenant in the United States Artillery Corps, and was stationed on the Northern frontier.

Lieutenant Dana was afterwards removed to Fort Independence in Boston Harbor, and from thence to the fort in the harbor of Portsmouth, N. H. Whilst at the Portsmouth station, he became acquainted with and married Miss Mary Ann Langdon Harris, second daughter of Robert Harris, and granddaughter of Judge Woodbury Langdon, of Portsmouth, N. H.

Captain Dana — for to that rank he was in a short time promoted — was stationed at different times at various forts along the Atlantic coast; making friends wherever he went, by his cultivated intellect, his noble and generous disposition, and his friendly manners. Mrs. Dana was a very beautiful woman, and calculated to adorn any society into which she might

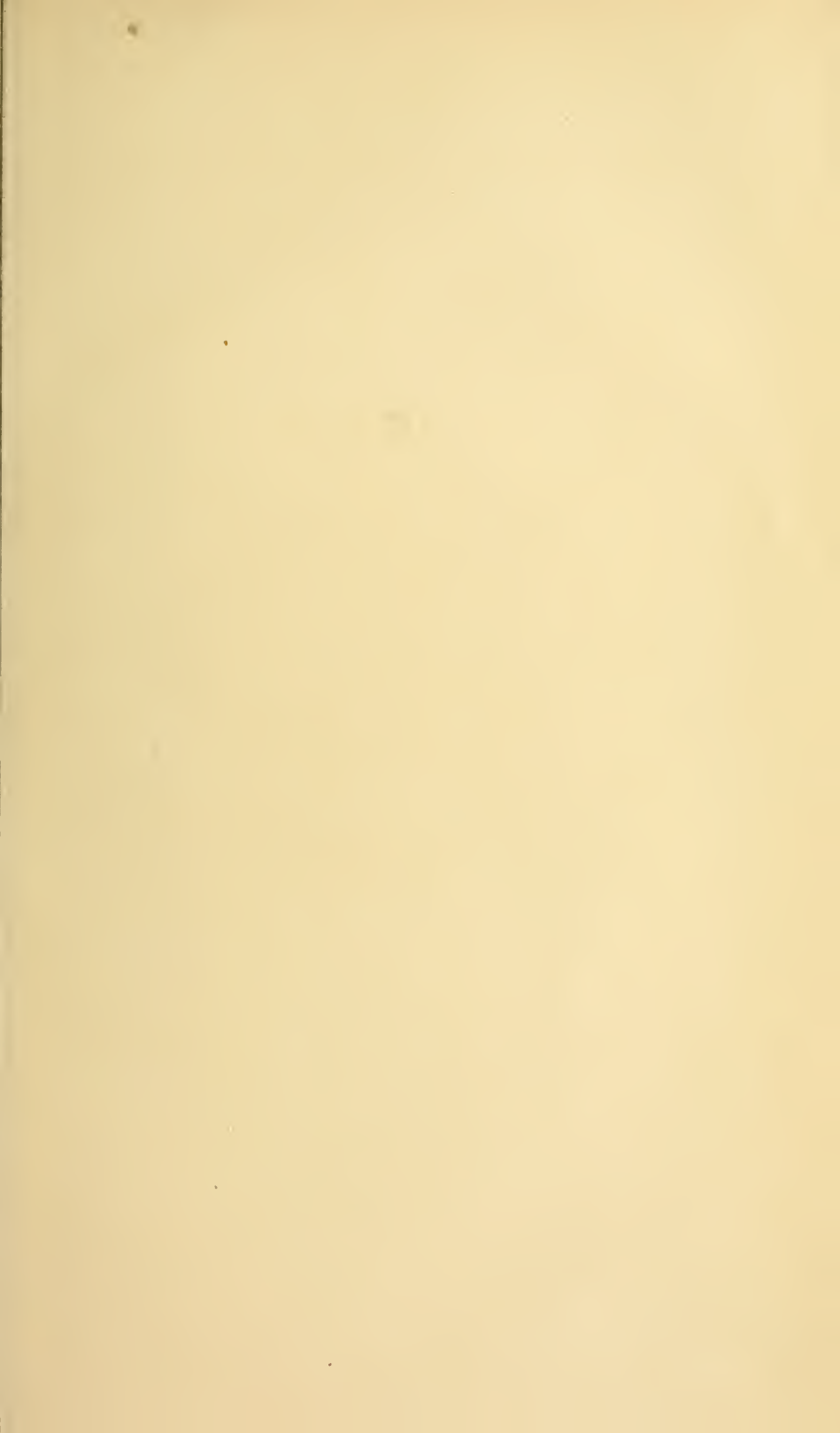
enter. They had a numerous family of children, several whom died in infancy or early childhood. Four survived Captain Dana, of these the eldest, Mary Anne, married William Wallace, of Concord, N. H. She died about ten years after her marriage, leaving one son, who entered the army during the war of 1861, was wounded in the service, taken prisoner by the Confederates, and his name sent in upon the list of the dead.

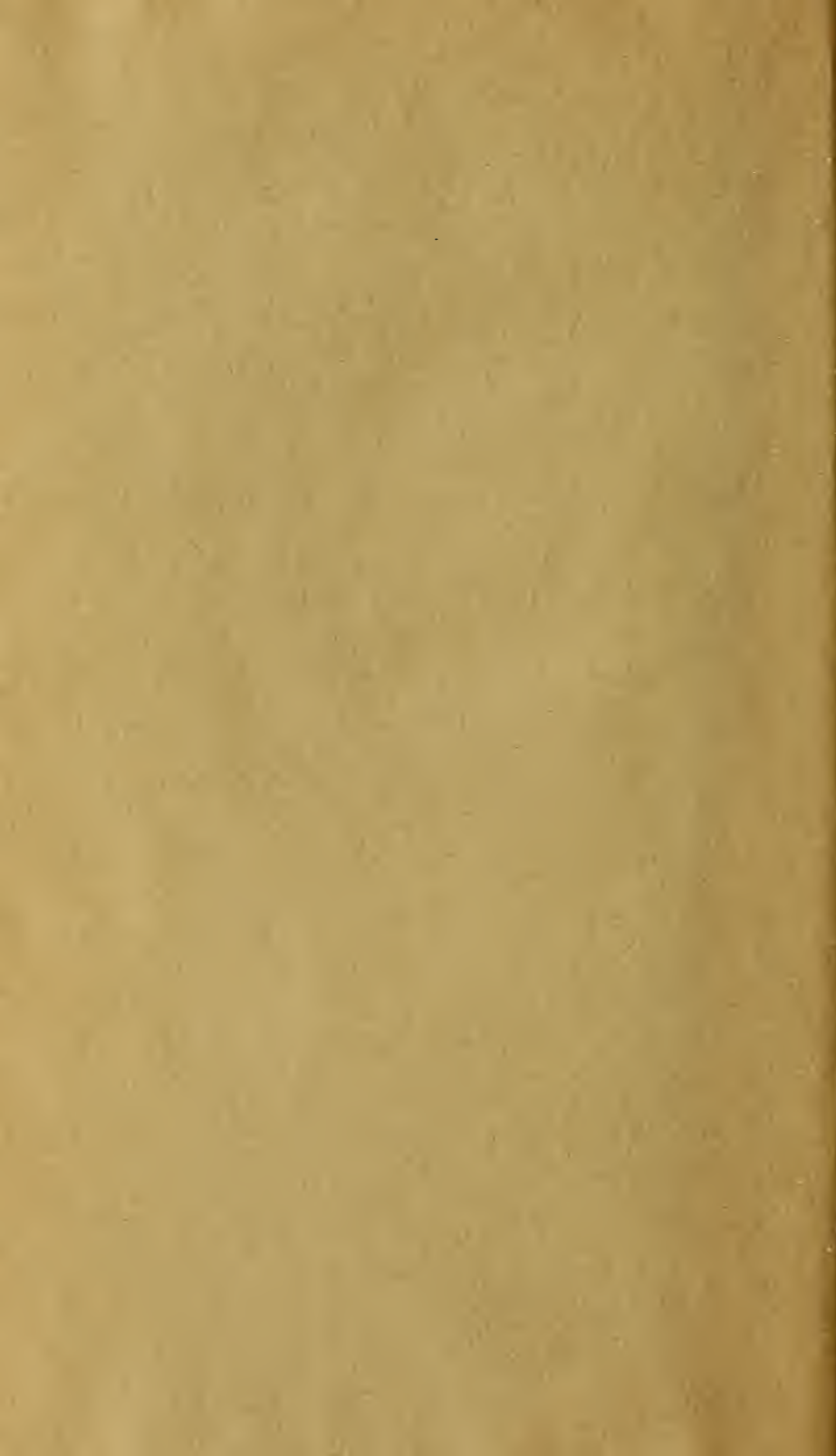
The surviving children are Major General N. J. T. Dana, Matilda Adelphine Dana, and Mrs. J. V. N. Whipple.

Captain N. G. Dana served in the U. S. A. until his death which occurred Feb. 4, 1833, at Fort M'Henry, in Baltimore harbor. Strict in his enforcement of the rules of discipline, the kindness of Captain Dana to those under his command was such as to gain him the respect of even strangers.

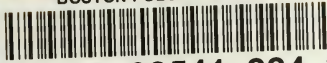
Captain Dana was of medium height, strongly built, with a finely formed head, indicative of high intellectual powers, and a face which, though not handsome, was expressive of great strength, combined with the utmost sweetness and sensibility.

He was by nature of a poetical temperament, wrote well and readily; and possessed a large amount of wit and humor which was always at command, making him a most pleasing companion: he is still held in affectionate remembrance by those who enjoyed his friendship.





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